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# American Farmer

AND SPIRIT OF THE AGRICULTURAL JOURNALS OF THE DAY.

"O FORTUNATOS NIMIUM SUA SI BONA NORINT  
"AGRICOLAS." Virg.

Vol. III.—New Series.

BALTIMORE, MD. SEPTEMBER 15, 1841.

No. 17

## THE AMERICAN FARMER.

PUBLISHED BY SAMUEL SANDS.

TERMS—The "AMERICAN FARMER" is published every Wednesday at \$2.50 per ann., in advance, or \$3 if not paid within 6 months. 5 copies for one year for \$10. ADVERTISEMENTS not exceeding 16 lines inserted three times for \$1, and 25 cents for each additional insertion—larger ones in proportion. **Communications and letters** to be directed to **SAMUEL SANDS, publisher, corner of Baltimore & North sts.**

**—**We would again remind our readers that the Cattle Show and Fair takes place this day at Ellicott's Mills, and will continue two days, and we seize the occasion to indulge the hope that our agricultural friends generally will be present, and that such a display of implements, and superior breeds of live stock, &c. will be made on the occasion, as will redound to the honor of good old Maryland.

**—**A Fair is also to be held this day at Wilmington, D. and from the very liberal list of premiums offered by the Trustees, for the best specimens of live-stock, agricultural implements, household manufactures, &c. we have little doubt of its proving a splendid affair.

**—**Robt. W. Bowie, Esq. President, and Alex. Keech, Esq. first Vice President of the Prince George's county Agricultural Society, have been invited by the Board of Managers to deliver addresses before the Society on the day of its annual meeting, on Wednesday, 3d Nov. next—We regret our inability, this week, to publish the list of premiums offered for the occasion, but they shall appear in our next, wherein will be exhibited the same liberal and enlightened policy which has ever characterized the gallant sons of that patriotic county. We sincerely hope it may be in our power to be present on the occasion.

**—**A Fair is also to be held at Richmond on the 20th Oct. and it is suggested by a Virginia correspondent that our breeders would do well to send their stock to it.

**FLOUR AND GRAIN MARKET**—The market for flour and grain has fallen off very considerably since our last, and has receded to nearly the point it was at prior to the news by the Britannia. The stock has increased to a very considerable extent in the Eastern markets, whilst operators are holding off, until the arrival of the next steamer, which is expected this day or tomorrow. Should the favorable change in the weather noted in the last accounts have continued, we may expect a decline in prices, as the large stocks accumulating will not permit a continuation of the present rates. On the contrary, should the English harvest turn out unfavorably as had been anticipated, an advance in price will be the consequence. Our farmers should be on their guard, against speculators, as the probability is, that should the next news confirm the unfavorable anticipations in regard to the harvest, agents will be scattered through the country to buy up their produce. A large quantity of flour was purchased by the knowing ones in this city, who were on the look-out for and received the intelligence by the Britannia, before it was generally disseminated—We would therefore put our friends upon their guard, as the accounts by the next steamer will be of the most important character.

"THE FISCAL CORPORATION," which had passed Congress, and which we noticed last week as being in the hands of the President, has been returned to the H. of R. where it originated, with his veto upon the same. Great excitement has been caused by this act of the Executive, and a DISSOLUTION OF THE CABINET has been the consequence, Mr. Webster alone remaining, he declaring, in a published "card," that he sees no reason for the course of his colleagues, and that he has still confidence the president will unite with congress in establishing a fiscal agent at the next session. The following nominations have been made to the Senate to supply the vacancies:

Walter Forward, of Pa. as Secretary of the Treasury  
Judge M-Lean, of Ohio, as Secretary of War  
Judge Upshur, of Virginia, Secretary of the Navy  
Hugh Legare, of South Carolina, Attorney General  
And it is supposed that C. Wickliffe, of Ky. for Post Master General—Congress adjourned on Monday.

**BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**—At the last session of the Virginia legislature, a law was passed establishing a Board of Agriculture for the State—A similar law was enacted some years ago in Massachusetts, which has been of incalculable benefit to her, and which nothing could induce the legislature to repeal—New York, likewise, has appropriated a large sum for the purpose of aiding in the establishment of agricultural societies—and even Mississippi, amid all the discouragements connected with her pecuniary affairs, found opportunity at the last session of her legislature, to pass a law for the benefit of the agricultural interest of the state—We regret that Maryland, the centre state of the union, is so far behind her sisters in any efficient system for the advancement of the same great interest; but it is to be hoped that the exciting topics connected with national politics, and which have occupied so large a share of the time and attention of the legislature for several years past, will have so far subsided as to enable them to devote a larger share thereof at the ensuing session to the true and legitimate duties of their appointment.

**A FINE PLUM**—We were presented a few days since by a friend with a *Magnum bonum* plum, measuring  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches in circumference, and we need not add that it was a most luscious and acceptable present; but we will express our regret that there is so much difficulty in introducing the plum family into common cultivation. Except in cities and towns, it is a rare thing, indeed, that any of this variety ever ripen their fruit. Why they should succeed in those places, and not in the open culture of the country, is a question worthy of consideration. Is it the smoke of the former places, or the pavements around the trees, which secures the exemption from insects, and imparts the power of retaining the fruit to the trees until it ripens? Be it what it may, much is lost, by the way of enjoyment and profit from the cause to which we have alluded, and we hope that it may elicit such an enquiry into cause, effect, prevention and cure, as will, ere long, enable us all, with certainty to exclaim, that the enemy has been conquered.

The above plum was raised in the garden of Capt. J. D. Daniels, of this city.

### NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

We subjoin the Address of Solon Robinson, Esq. to the friends of Agriculture throughout the United States, upon the subject of forming a National Society promotive of the interests of agriculture. The address also contains minutes of the proceedings of a meeting of the friends of the project, held at Washington on the 4th inst. to make the preliminary arrangements for holding the Convention.—We most heartily coincide with the patriotic projector of this truly national institution in the estimate formed of its importance, and shall look forward to its proceedings as being calculated to produce a new era in the husbandry of our country. To Mr. Robinson, primarily, and to Mr. Jas. M. Garnett, as his able co-adjutor, the country will be indebted for the projection and consummation of this good work, and we hazard nothing in saying that by this act they will entitle themselves to the gratitude of their countrymen, and if their enlightened views shall be fully carried out, that they will be instrumental in conferring more benefit upon the nation than any other individuals of the land.

Mr. Robinson is now on a tour to the Eastern States, and in his travels we need not commend him to the kind attentions of the friends of agriculture—for the bare presentation of his person, and the announcement of his name, will cause an involuntary extension of proffered aid, in the duties in which he is engaged, and secure to him the rites of hospitality wheresoever he may tarry.

We had the pleasure of a visit from Mr. Robinson during the past week; and prior to his departure he left with us the annexed "Card" for insertion in the "Farmer."

*A CARD to my Agricultural friends in Maryland, Virginia and Delaware.*

To such of you as I have had the pleasure of meeting, I tender you thus publicly an acknowledgement of the pleasure you have caused me to feel in partaking of the hospitality and respect bestowed upon me. I feel and acknowledge it more as respect bestowed upon the cause I advocate, than upon the person of the agent of that cause.

To a large number from whom I have received cordial invitations to partake of their hospitality, and to the friends of agricultural improvement generally, I have to say that a great press of engagements prevent me from enjoying the pleasure of a personal interview.

Every thing indicates a cheering assurance that a good feeling exists and is improving, and which will tend to bind my agricultural brethren together in one strong bond of brotherhood throughout the union.

I have the honor to subscribe myself, most respectfully, your friend,  
SOLON ROBINSON.  
Baltimore, Sept. 10, 1841.

### NATIONAL SOCIETY OF AGRICULTURE.

*Address to the friends of this measure throughout the United States.*

Having arrived in Washington city, upon my proposed tour of observation, and having found by personal interview and extensive correspondence, an almost unbounded desire among the Agriculturists of the country that a National Society should be formed at an early day, it was concluded to call a few of the leading friends of the cause together for consultation.

Agreeably to notice given on the morning of the 4th inst. a very respectable meeting of real friends, was held in the afternoon in the great entrance hall of the Patent

office; every facility for that purpose having been most cheerfully afforded by the Hon. Henry L. Ellsworth, Com'r. of Patents, of whom the country can truly boast a most decided friend of agricultural improvement.

The following are minutes of the proceedings.

"The meeting was called to order by the Hon. Mr. Ellsworth, who stated to the assemblage that Solon Robinson, Esq., of Indiana, was then present—and that as Mr. Robinson was looked upon as the original projector of the measure upon which those present had met to consult, he moved that the meeting be organized by calling Mr. Robinson to the chair. The motion being seconded by Mr. Callan, was put by Mr. Ellsworth, and carried by acclamation. Whereupon Mr. Robinson took the chair, and after offering his thanks to the meeting for the honor conferred upon a stranger in the city of Washington. At the solicitation of several gentlemen present, Mr. Robinson before taking his seat, briefly stated the object of the present meeting to be a mere primary one, for the purpose of consulting together upon the expediency of calling a general meeting of all favorable to the object of organizing a National Society of Agriculture, and should those here present deem it expedient, to fix upon a time, and adopt some preparatory steps towards forming a constitution. Whereupon J. F. Callan, and John A. Smith, Esq's. were appointed Secretaries of the meeting.

The following Resolution was submitted by Mr. Ellsworth, and after several gentlemen had expressed their views very freely, it was unanimously

*Resolved*, That the interest of Agriculture imperiously require the co-operation of its friends throughout the Union, to concentrate their efforts by the formation of a National Society, for the promotion of National Industry, and "to elevate the character and standing of the cultivators of American soil."

On motion of the Hon. A. O. Dayton it was

*Resolved*, That [blank] be a committee to prepare a draft of a Constitution for a National Society of Agriculture, to be submitted to a meeting of the friends of such a society, from all parts of the union, to be held at the city of Washington on the second Wednesday of the ensuing session of Congress.

On motion of the Hon. T. S. Smith, it was *Resolved*, That the chairman fill the blank in the last resolution with the name of one gentleman from the District of Columbia, and one from each State and Territory.

On motion of Mr. Ellsworth, *Resolved*, That the name of the chairman of this meeting be added to the committee for framing the constitution.

The chairman announced the names of the following gentlemen as the committee:

Hon. Henry L. Ellsworth, District of Columbia; Hon. James M. Garnett, Virginia; Hon. Chilton Allen, Kentucky; Hon. Oliver H. Smith, Indiana; Hon. Thomas S. Hind, Illinois; Hon. Lewis F. Linn, Missouri; Hon. Francis H. Gordon, Tennessee; M. W. Phillips, Esq., Mississippi; Hon. Dixon H. Lewis, Alabama; Hon. Alex. Mouton, Louisiana; Hon. Wm. S. Fulton, Arkansas; Hon. Augustus C. Dodge, Iowa; Gov. James D. Doty, Wisconsin; Hon. William Woodbridge, Michigan; Wm. Neff, Esq. Ohio; Wm. P. Kinzer, Esq., Pennsylvania; Edmund D. Morris, Esq., New Jersey; Dr. James W. Thompson, Delaware; Hon. John S. Skinner, Maryland; Hon. Edmund Deberry, North Carolina; Hon. Francis W. Pickens, South Carolina; Hon. Wm. C. Dawson, Georgia; Gov. Call, Florida; Caleb N. Bement, Esq., New York; Solomon W. Jewett, Esq., Vermont; Hon. Levi Woodbury, New Hampshire; Hon. George Evans, Maine; B. V. French, Esq., Massachusetts; William C. Chapin, Esq., Rhode Island; Hon. Thomas B. Osborn, Connecticut.

On motion the meeting adjourned.

SOLON ROBINSON, Chairman.

J. F. CALLAN, *Secretary.*  
JOHN A. SMITH, *Secretary.*

Washington City, Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>, 1841.

By this, my friends, you will see that the ball is now fairly in motion. I hope I have been fortunate enough in making a selection upon the spur of the moment, of the gentlemen named as a committee, to secure the services of such as will act promptly for the good of this great cause. I hope they will interchange views with one another, and at the day appointed for the meeting to organize the Society, I hope they will come together, and have the satisfaction of meeting the largest body of the real friends of agricultural improvement ever collected together.

I most earnestly hope that every individual friend of a

National Agricultural Society, whom bounteous nature has provided with the means, will attend the first meeting. I hope every Agricultural Society in the Union will send special delegates to the National Society.

I have and shall recommend that the price of membership be fixed very low, as the great and grand object is to enlist a great number in this bond of brotherhood, and by concentrated effort of mind more than with money, to produce a happy effect upon society.

A large meeting at the organization is highly important to give tone and effect to the measure, and to encourage one another. It is probable also that steps will then be taken to found an institution where a course of scientific and agricultural lectures will be delivered every winter, free to every farmer's son or daughter in the United States.

Many of my friends have expressed a wish that the first meeting might be held in the present autumn. But it is thought by those with whom I have advised here, that the time of a session of Congress would be the most interesting. In fact every freeman of this country ought to have the opportunity at least once in his life, of visiting the Capitol of his country, at such a time. There is there enough to be seen and learned, sufficient to repay all the trouble and expense of such a visit.

The Patent Office alone is the greatest and best museum of useful curiosities in the Union.

The Hall of Manufactures, 273 feet long, will be filled with ten thousand curious and wonderful things. It is already worthy of great interest, and before next winter will be much more so.

No doubt manufacturers and mechanics will take advantage of the time of the meeting of the Friends of a National Society of Agriculture, to make exhibitions that will be sufficient to induce great attention, and from which a mass of useful information will be gathered.

I cannot but look upon the first meeting of the friends of a National Agricultural Society as an epoch in the history of my country that will long be remembered.

I hope all of my correspondents to whom I have promised information upon this subject, will take this address as particularly addressed to them. And I hope that every paper in the United States that is friendly to that interest which is the base of all others, will make known to its readers what is now doing for the promotion and organization of this Society. I am confident that every agricultural paper will afford the information to its readers, and I hope in particular that every editor of such papers will attend the first meeting.

From Washington, I shall continue my tour through the Eastern States, and I hope to have a personal interview with many of my agricultural friends.

But above all things, let all remember "*now is the time*" for them to say that "something can, something must, something shall be done" to advance the interest of agriculture in the United States.

Be assured that I remain your earnest agricultural friend,

SOLON ROBINSON.

Washington City, September 6th, 1841.

From the Kentucky Farmer.

#### DIRECTIONS FOR CULTIVATING TOBACCO AND PREPARING IT FOR MARKET.

It is encouraging to the western planter that the western tobacco is getting to be more highly appreciated, and that it is destined to receive preference in the European markets. We hope the directions in regard to curing and packing in hds, of well seasoned timber, and of proper form and size, will be particularly observed. We feel it a duty, on behalf of the western tobacco planters, to acknowledge their obligations to Mr. Sanders for his useful services in their favor.

GRASS HILLS, Ky., 16th Aug. 1841.

To the Editor of the Kentucky Farmer:

Dear Sir:—Although I deprecate the culture of tobacco as the main crop, on my Kentucky farm, as leading to a speedy exhaustion of the soil, and returning no manure, still such a course is pursued by many, and will not be abandoned. For their benefit, I wrote to Mr. Polk, one of the inspectors of tobacco at New-Orleans, for samples of the most approved sorts, and for such information as would enable the planter to obtain the best prices. The consumption of the article is mostly by foreigners. To get the best price, the planter ought to bring to market his crop, to suit their taste and habits. Dealers from all parts of Europe go to N.O. to purchase tobacco; they have constant intercourse and personal communication with the inspectors, and they of course have the knowledge,

that the tobacco planter ought to possess. As the tobacco is not grown for our own use, but for the use of others, we should send it to market in a state most agreeable to them.

I have just received Mr. P.'s remarks as to growing and curing, which are herewith sent.

L. S.

NEW ORLEANS, 25th July, 1831.

LEWIS SANDERS, Esq. Grass Hills, Carroll Co. Ky.

Dear Sir:—At your request, I send you enclosed, brief instructions relative to the growth and management of tobacco; for much depends after all on experience. Your letter of the 8th March last induces me to believe that there is a spirit of emulation among your planters, and it will give me great pleasure if the brief hints I enclose you, will advance their interest.

Within a few years past, western tobacco has been gaining reputation in Europe, and my correspondents inform me that the western leaf is taking precedence over the Virginia tobacco; which result I always anticipated, could the planters be awakened to their own interest in packing their tobacco uniformly and in seasoned timber. Tobacco cured with as little fire as possible is preferred; and large broad leaf and small stem. Seek this kind of seed—I shall have some seed sent to you, as soon as I can obtain some which has been promised. I have secured some specimens of tobacco during the season for you, which shall be forwarded as you directed. I call your attention particularly to the samples of Missouri, as they are much sought after here. But you will perceive some of them have been fired too hard. I am convinced that you could improve in the mode of firing tobacco by having flues to keep up a regular temperature in the tobacco house, by which all chance of smoking would be avoided. It appears to be an improvement necessary. S. W. POLK.

#### DIRECTIONS.

The first thing to be done to prepare for a crop of tobacco (taking it for granted there are already suitable houses) is to cut down your timber and rive it out to season; then prepare your plant ground, and sow your seed from February to the beginning or middle of March, with you, which will give you ample time to secure an abundant supply of plants. Take care, however, to secure your plant beds well with brush, which should remain until the plants begin to cover the ground. If your land is good, let your plants be 3½ to 4 feet apart. When the plant begins to spread, use the plough, running as close to the plant as practicable, and at the same time deep in the ground, more particularly if the weather is dry—or an unusually wet spell of weather. Prime and top early. By so doing, you grow your plants with leaves close to each other. If your ground is rich I should suppose 40 leaves sufficient for each plant. If your soil is rich and the plant early and thrifty, you can prime to the plant leaves and top to the above number. The worming and suckering of your tobacco is of course, when the field begins to ripen. Cut nothing that is not ripe or well matured.

You now come to curing. Above all avoid letting your tobacco remain in the sun after cutting; house it immediately, and avoid brushing or breaking the leaves. Hang about eight plants on a stick of 4 feet long. When all your cutting is hung, let the sticks be crowded up on the tier poles close, and so let it remain until it becomes yellow. After this, range your sticks in proper order, not allowing one to touch the other. Then commence firing with good hickory, and continue until the stems are killed. Slack then your fire and allow your tobacco to come in order—and when in order, fire again, and continue until the leaf is dry, when you must slack your fire, and so repeat the 3d time. Avoid as much as possible the smoking of your tobacco, and be careful not to have your fires too hot. Some modern planters fire their tobacco from the time it is housed until it is cured; but this plan destroys the virtue of the plant—indeed, sometimes it is so hard fired, that it is little or nothing better than if it had been house-burned. When your tobacco is cured, let it come in high case before you begin stripping. Have each plant well examined and pull off all the green and leaves and unsound leaves, which lay by themselves for your trash or big hogheads. Have none but good sound leaves tied in small hands of 5 or 7 leaves each, first stemming your ties, and never suffer any re-hung if the stripping season should continue; but when the weather is clear, cold or windy, re-hang with selected smooth sticks, taking care that no one plant touches another. In this way your tobacco will all dry at the same time—straight and in good order.

After your tobacco is all re-hung (after stripping) the first time it comes in order for sticking—(you must watch it closely)—if the tails become soft and the stem brittle, begin to take down. If the butts are too hard while the tails are in the right order, lap the tails and leave the butts exposed to the air, while on the sticks, and when the butts become soft enough to bulk, raise a floor some distance from the ground and bulk it down as straight as possible, handling one bundle at a time, and take care not to break the stems. Having finished bulking, cover it with clean ground leaves; then put on your weight; not heavy at first, and when the curing goes pretty much through the bulk, add sufficient weight to exclude the air. Now make your hhd's. of seasoned timber, 34 inches long in the stave and 38 inches in the head from outside to outside. Let your staves be  $\frac{1}{2}$  an inch thick, and your headings a full inch, seasoned. If you put flat hoops, 6 will be sufficient; if round ones, put 8 hoops. In this sized casks you can prize 1400 to 1600 lbs of tobacco. But in prizing be careful that your tobacco is laid in strait, hand by hand, passing each through the hands as it is handed to the packer. Let all the long leaves be tied together and your short ones together, and under no circumstances, put different kinds of tobacco in the same hhd.; for it is this great evil that has prostrated the western tobacco in Europe. Our tobacco here is classed 1st, 2d, 3d; and every tobacco planter should class his tobacco at home.

From the Kentucky Farmer.

#### ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF ICE-HOUSES.

The principles which should be kept in view in the construction of houses for the preservation of ice, are few and simple. The sole object of the structure being to prevent the passage of *caloric*,\* from the earth, the air or the sun, to the ice; for if we could completely prevent the passage of that agent into the ice, it would retain its solid form for any length of time.

The temperature of ice, when at its melting point is 32, Fahrenheit; in order that it may melt into water, it must absorb 140 degrees of caloric, sufficient to raise its temperature to 172 deg. but which only changes its form, from solid to liquid, without rendering it any warmer than it was before. The water draining from the melting ice being always at the same temperature with the ice itself. Without the accession of these 140 degrees of caloric, therefore, ice would never be melted into water.

Could we construct a house of materials that were perfect non-conductors of caloric, the preservation of ice contained in it would be complete. As, however, we have no perfect non-conductors, we must select for our purpose those substances which conduct most slowly. The materials which experience has selected for articles of clothing, to preserve the natural temperature of our bodies, stand at the head of the list of those substances, and would also be the very best that could be used to protect ice from the surrounding caloric, were they not too dear and too perishable in their nature. As these, however, cannot be employed, for this reason, except in preserving small quantities for immediate use, we are obliged to resort to others less perfect but cheaper and more indestructable. Among these are the following, which I have placed in the order of their relative resistance to the passage of caloric, as determined by Count Rumford and others; those which oppose the greatest obstruction to its passage being placed first, viz:

Charcoal of light wood,  
Dry wood ashes,  
Tan bark,  
Wood,  
Sand,  
Bricks,  
Porous earth,  
Porous rocks,  
Dense rocks.

According to our data, one of the best modes of forming the walls of an ice house, would be to make a frame work of timbers, say from 6 to 12 inches thick, to board it up on both sides of the timbers, and fill the spaces between the boards with powdered charcoal, dry wood ashes, tan bark or saw dust; the floor and covering of the structure being protected in the same manner; and on filling it with ice a considerable thickness of straw should be placed at the bottom, sides, and top.

\*A definite term employed to designate the cause of the sensation called heat; which latter word is applied, in common parlance, both to the cause and to the sensation, leading sometimes to ambiguity.

Where these materials are not easily to be obtained, logs of wood, built up in the pit, like a log cabin, make a very good substitute; more especially if filled on the outside, next the earth, with charcoal, ashes, saw dust, or tan bark. For this purpose charcoal and ashes are preferable to saw dust and tan bark, in consequence of their indestructability.

Bricks and stones, although often employed in the construction of ice houses, are less proper than wood, unless lined on the outside with a sufficient thickness of charcoal, ashes, or other imperfect conductors.

Ice houses are frequently made, partly above and partly below the surface of the ground; the top being arched over and the earth which was dug from the pit being thrown on the top of the structure, in the form of a mould. This is a very good form, provided all the sides are protected, by non-conductors, from the caloric of the soil. The caloric of the sun's rays, absorbed by the surface of the porous earth in summer, passes through it with considerable difficulty and travels slowly to the interior; passing off again in part, by the same slow process back to the surface to be dissipated during the cold of winter. In consequence of the difficulty with which it penetrates porous earthy matters, the daily changes of temperature cannot be observed at a greater depth than 3 or 4 feet, and the great annual vicissitudes are entirely lost before they descend 100 feet below the surface. The earth's surface, therefore, does not become heated or cooled rapidly to any considerable depth, and deep caves and excavations in the earth, preserve a scarcely varying temperature, which approaches that of the *mean temperature* of the region. This is the temperature of the water of deep wells, or of springs rising from some depth, which by comparison appears cold in summer and warm in winter. The *mean temperature* of this region is somewhere between 52 and 58 degrees, Fah.; twenty or twenty-four degrees above the melting point of ice; so that there is always caloric enough in the soil, below the surface, to melt ice, even during the winter season, and deep ice houses, whether covered or not with a mound of earth, hence require the protection of walls of non-conducting materials.

One of the most common causes of the rapid melting of ice in ice houses, is the want of sufficient drainage. If the water that drops from the ice or sinks from the surface of the soil, cannot drain away, but remains at the bottom of the house in contact with the ice, it serves as a medium through which the caloric of the earth passes with facility, causing the rapid melting and sinking of the ice. At the bottom of every ice house, therefore, if it is not in a very sandy soil, there should be a well of sufficient magnitude, or the floor should be raised to such a height above the earth as to prevent the water from ever coming in contact with the ice. Decomposition, and the formation of mephitic gases, as suggested by one of your correspondents, cannot take place under these circumstances; the most fermentable liquids do not begin their fermentation until their temperature is raised above 32 deg. which is that of the water dripping from ice.

The houses that are not covered with a mound of earth, should have a good roof, or what is better, a tight room built over them, to prevent the circulation of air as much as possible, and the roof and sides should be rendered as nearly proof against the passage of caloric as straw, or other substances of the kind, fixed on the inside, as stated by Mr. Mentreille, can make them, and to prevent as much as possible the absorption of the caloric of the sun's rays, the whole exterior, roof and all, should be well white washed; it being a well established fact that much less is absorbed by a white surface than by a black one.

A great deal may be gained in the preservation of ice, by putting it up during the very coldest weather. For example, if ice be cut and exposed for a sufficient time to the air, when the thermometer is at zero, and packed away at that temperature, it must become heated up to its melting point, 32 degrees above zero, before a particle of it will liquefy. But if packed in the house on a mild day, when in a thawing condition, it being already heated up to its melting point, the first degree of caloric that passes into it melts a portion. It has been already stated that 140 degrees are necessary to the liquefaction of ice, and it will be seen, therefore, that 140 pounds of ice, put up at the temperature of zero, is equivalent to 172 pounds which is packed in a melting condition.

The form of an ice house is by no means a matter of indifference. That which presents the smallest external surface is theoretically the best; therefore, other things being equal, a globular form would be the most proper.

This, however, is not a convenient one to construct, and hence the truncated cone, or square, are those most frequently adopted, and answer sufficiently well. The worst possible form would be a long narrow one.

Yours respectfully,

ROBT. PETER.

Mr. T. B. STEVENSON.

ICE HOUSES.—A correspondent has addressed to us inquiries relating to the use of tan in filling up ice houses. In answer to his inquiries, we re-publish from vol. x. page 129 of the N. E. Farmer, the following communication:

MR. FESSENDEN.—Your correspondent C., whose communication was given vol. x. page 13, of the New England Farmer, complains of not being able to keep his ice through the summer, and imputes it to the soil on which his house is located. I have an ice-house which is built on the same kind of soil which he describes, say a gravelly knoll. I dug a bit say from 8 to 12 inches larger than I intended the frame. I dug it about 8 feet below the surface, and with the gravel which came out of the pit, I raised it about 2 feet. My frame was 10 feet long, 8 feet wide, and 10 feet deep. I planked it up with two-inch hemlock planks, and filled the space on the outside, which was from 8 to 12 inches, with tan, and rammed it down as fast as I planked it up, till I came to the top of the frame. I then put on rafters of joists 4 or 5 inches square, and lined them and filled the space with tan as tight as it could be rammed in, and then shingled the roof. The ends were boarded up, with a door at each end, for the convenience of filling the house. My house holds about 6 cords. I fill it with square pieces of ice, as close as I can pack them. I put nothing between the layers of ice, nor on the sides, nor do I break any in pieces to fill up the spaces, except broken pieces that will not make good stowage. I have filled the house to the top of the frame. I then fill the roof with shavings, and ram them down as tight as I can. I have had no difficulty in keeping my ice, and have spared as much as we have used, and have often ice in the house when we clear it for filling afresh. I think shavings are better than straw, as they will not rot so soon by the dampness. I go to the ice-house at any time of day when ice is wanted. My ice-house has no drains to it. Under the plank at bottom, I rounded out a place lengthwise, about a foot deep, sloping towards the middle like an egg cut in two lengthwise, which I think is sufficient to receive all the water that will waste from the ice.

I remain, with respect,

Your most obedient servant,

A SUBSCRIBER.

Medford, Oct. 28, 1831.

YORK COUNTY TOBACCO.—We judge, says the Harrisburg Intelligencer, that there are at least two hundred acres of Tobacco in York county this season. The crop looks well—much better than any between Baltimore and Washington. We do not know what is the value per acre, but presume the whole crop will bring a good deal of money into the pockets of the thrifty farmers of York.—*Phil. National Gaz.*

PROPER TIME FOR CUTTING TIMBER.—A writer in Silliman's Journal of Science, recommends the summer season, when the trees are in full foliage, as the most suitable time in the year, for felling timber trees. He thinks experiment, reason and experience all sanction his opinion. Accidental led him to the discovery. Having nearly finished the skeleton of a vessel for the sea out of timber cut in winter, he discovered that several pieces were wanting, and was under the necessity of obtaining them from the woods while the trees were covered with foliage. Having procured the pieces, they were introduced; the vessel was finished and sent on her voyage. When she became unseaworthy, the timbers were examined. The dry-rot was found to be confined wholly to the winter-cut timber; the summer-cut pieces being perfectly sound. He believes that wherever the sap is, there the rot begins. He does not admit, that in winter this fluid is "deep dextraded to the root," for says he, the roots cannot possibly hold all the sap. Experiment appears to have satisfied him, that in winter the sap retires into the heart-wood, and in summer, that it returns to the albumen or white-wood. If, therefore, he reasons, we wish to obtain durable heart-wood, we should cut the timber when the sap has left this central portion of the tree. To prove that the sap retreats to the centre during the winter, he cut a stick in this season, and exposing one end to the

here he found the principal moisture issuing from the heart-wood at the other end: a similar stick cut in summer, and treated in the same manner, exuded moisture mostly from the albumen.—*Yankee Farm.*

#### CULTURE OF SILK.

Of all the objects in the animal and vegetable kingdoms cultivated and protected by man, there are none other more remarkable than the *Morus* genus of trees, and the Silk Worm. These objects are especially remarkable, from the fact that the leaves of the tree are absolutely requisite as food for the worm, when the purpose of rearing the latter is to procure the animal fibre denominated silk. As the animal can be protected from the inclemency of the weather, the extent on the earth to which it may be introduced and propagated successfully might be indefinite, but as the *Morus* tree cannot be so easily or perhaps to any near approach be so extensively introduced, the joint culture must be limited by the range of the vegetable.

Dr. William Darlington, in his excellent "*Flora Cestrica*," or Vegetables of Chester county, Pennsylvania, at page 525, has the subjoined observations under the head of White Mulberry:

"This foreign species was introduced more than half a century since, with a view to the culture of silk. The silk culture was soon abandoned—but the tree became partially naturalized, and is still to be met with, in several localities, near West Chester. Recently a Silk company has been organized in this county, and the *Morus Alba* (white Mulberry) is now under culture, in several places, to a considerable extent. Another plant, called *Morus Multicaulis* (many stemmed) has been introduced for cultivation during the present year, 1836, and it is said to be preferable to the *Morus Alba*. Whether it be more than a variety of the *Alba*, I have not had an opportunity to ascertain."

Hitherto the climates of large sections, indeed minor and of course more local sections, have been altogether too much overlooked when attempts are made to introduce vegetables. It is true, that experiment often contradicts theory; but the term theory is often applied to fair inductions from experience, and the reader will pardon another extract from Darlington's "*Flora Cestrica*." Speaking of the *Vitis Vinifera*, or wine producing grape, that author observes:

"Several of the varieties of this multifarious species have been cultivated on a small scale in this county; but the success has not been encouraging. There seems to be a defect in the climate, or in the skill of the cultivators, which renders the crop extremely uncertain. The variety called English Grape, or Miller's Burgundy, appears generally to succeed the best; but it often fails. Indeed the culture of our native varieties, or hybrids, which was attempted with great spirit, a few years since, has been attended with so much disappointment that it is now nearly abandoned, except for family use."

When Dr. Darlington wrote the sentence closing "*this country*," he might have, with great truth and propriety inserted the UNITED STATES, in place of Chester county. The *Vitis Vinifera*, has been cultivated indeed on this eastern side of North America, as it has no doubt been from time immemorial, in Eastern Asia, and in the former country good wine has at different times and places been produced, but on the eastern slope of both the great northern continents, the climate is adverse to the cultivation to a very beneficial extent as staple productions, grapes and of course wine from grapes. An undefined variety of *vitis* is found over most countries but in Asia, as *vitis vinifera* has never flourished eastward of the Indus river; directly the contrary is the case with the *Morus*: that tree in all its varieties is congenial to eastern North America, as to eastern Asia. When we come to review the history of that species of *Gossypium* (herbaceous Cotton) we shall see the rapid development of a vegetable placed in a congenial climate, and the equally rapid change effected by its means on the commercial relations of mankind and on domestic comfort. It will also be seen, that the culture of

Cotton demands a length of summer far greater than necessary to the *Morus* tree. In fact, the mulberry tree may be regarded as unlimited in the United States, as to its habitation, and comports best of all vegetables not necessary for animal food, with the great variety of soil and surface which must exist on regions so vast as those comprised in the United States. Whenever any country becomes inhabited by a very dense, or even a moderately dense population, most of the surface accessible to the plough must be dedicated to agriculture, hence the invaluable benefits of silk culture. Hill sides, even rocky slopes and banks, and hedge rows, may be made to produce food for the silkworm.

In brief, silk of all human products is the one by pre-eminence best calculated to produce the most value with the smallest exertion of muscular force. Childhood, and old age may be both provided for in this beautiful employment, as it presents to female weakness at once an easy mode of life with a rich reward to labor.

Many readers may observe, that silk has been cultivated profitably and to a greater or less extent, during upwards of one thousand years in Europe. True, but why? because the high value of the product, and expense of transportation over or round the whole wide eastern continent, have operated hitherto as would very high impost protection to the silk of Europe, compensating for the relative defect of climate in the western when compared with the eastern regions of the Eastern continent. But, as may be said politically, a new empire is rising on the middle zone of North America, increasing in population, and that population uniting in energy. Between this new empire and the western parts of the Eastern continent, spreads a comparatively narrow ocean, across which, with modern improvements in navigation, the intercourse of social life, mingling with commercial transactions, human beings are transported with their property, with an ease, safety, and expedition far beyond the most ardent hopes of former ages. Admit, and all our recorded experience sustains the admission, that the United States part of the western side of the Atlantic ocean will be within a not very long period, peopled by relative numbers in given surfaces, equal to Western Europe, and then admit the correctness of data in this paper, the conclusion is inevitable that the silk country will be decided. But more on this important subject in another paper. At present let us close this paper by the subjoined translation from "*The Courier des Etats Unis*"—

"An important discovery in the manufacture of silk has been made by M. Miergues, a physician of Anduze. He has succeeded to substitute the cold for warm water in spinning silk; he mixes with the cold water a ter a dissolvent capable to seize the gum naturally mixed with the cocoon. In this new system there is a saving of combustible, and of the ordinary material. The dissolving liquor is contained in a basin. The composition of the dissolvent is kept a secret by the inventor. By this discovery the spinning goes on uninterrupted during the whole day, and in the evening no offensive odor exhales from the liquor, which is only something thickened and turbid, and may, after being filtered, be used again. The silk thus spun has a more brilliant appearance and stronger fibre, whilst the spinning room is rendered more healthy.

"On occasion of the progress of silk business, the Academy of Sciences was called upon to give its opinion, from which came the following curious calculation on the consummation of silk in the various fabrics at Lyons. The city of Lyons consumes annually a million of kilogrammes of silk. It demands 4 cocoons to produce one gramme of silk. The annual consummation of Lyons, therefore, amounts to 4 billion 200 millions. The length of silk thread from one cocoon is about a mean of 500 metres, or 1940 Eng. feet. The 4 billions 200 millions of silk thread spun annually by the manufacturers of Lyons, form together a thread of 6,888,000,000,000 Eng. ft., exceeding 13,000,000,000 English miles. This length is 14 times the distance in length of the earth from the sun; 5,494 times that of the moon from the earth, and 52,505 times the equatorial circumference of the earth."

From the Ipswich Express.

#### THE ART OF CULTURE.

A Lecture, Delivered by Mr. James Allen Ransome, at the Royal Victoria Gallery, Manchester, England.

(Concluded.)

But there were other sources from which the inorganic elements of plants could be derived. If, for example, we wanted to supply the land with a sufficiency of phosphorus, we had the choice of ashes of white oak, beech, pine, fir, or Norway pine. In the ashes of oak there were only the traces of phosphate; in the beech there was 20 per cent. of the phosphate of soda; pine and fir had from 9 to 15 per cent.; but the Norway pine had only 1.8 of phosphoric acid. With every 100lbs. of the lixiviated ashes of the beech spread over the soil, we could furnish as much phosphate as 460lbs. of fresh human excrement could yield. According to the analysis of de Sanssue, 100 parts of the ashes of the grain of wheat contained 32 parts of soluble and 44.5 of insoluble phosphates, in all 76.5 parts. The ashes of wheat straw contained 14.5 per cent. of the same salts; hence with every 100lbs. of the ashes of the beech a field might be supplied with phosphoric acid sufficient for the production of 3,820lbs. of straw, and of 15,000lbs. to 18,000lbs. of corn. It was also found that when an animal died, and all his secretions ceased, the bones were still useful as manure, and they had this advantage, that they could be kept almost any number of years. Bones contained phosphate of lime, and phosphate of magnesia; they also contained gelatine, and albumen according to others, and were rich in nitrogen. Eight pounds of bones contained as much of the inorganic elements as 100lbs. of hay or wheat straw, or 4000lbs. of the grain of wheat or oats. The advantages of bone manure were pretty well appreciated in this country and in Flanders and China. With respect to the excrement of cows, black cattle, and sheep, these contained phosphate of lime, common salt, and silicate of potash. The nature of the excrement were found to vary with the elements which the animal had taken in, and always consisted of the elements which the body found unfit for its own purposes. Human faeces or excrements, according to an analysis furnished by Berzelius, contained besides three fourths of their weight of water, nitrogen in very variable quantity—namely, in the minimum 11, in the maximum 5 per cent. In all cases, however, they were richer in their element than the excrements of any other animal. Berzelius obtained by the incineration of 100 parts of dried excrements, 15 parts of ashes, which were principally composed of the phosphates of lime and magnesia, both of which enter into the composition of the husk of wheat.

With respect to vegetable feeders, such as the horse, cow, and sheep, the excrements of the two latter restored to the land the silicate of potash, and salts of phosphoric acid, which was removed from it in the shape of corn, roots, or grain, and the excrements of the horse gave back to the soil phosphate of magnesia and silicate of potash; and the straw which they used as a litter restored a further quantity of potash and phosphate, which, if the straw were putrid, would be exactly in the same condition in which they were before being assimilated. It was evident, therefore, that a farm containing a certain number of human beings, and a certain portion of which being allotted for the grazing of cattle and the growth of corn, would be very little impoverished if the excrement of the human beings and cattle were carefully distributed over it every year. In the case of a number of children being borne and reared on this farm, the alteration in the land would still be very little; for, supposing the children continued there till they reached their maturity, and consequently assimilated a great proportion of the inorganic matter, let them die and be given back to the ground, and then it would contain as much as it did at first. This shewed the necessity of using over again the excrements as manure for the purpose of reproduction; and it also shewed the fallacy of much that had been said about excessive population and deficiency of food; for the supply of food seemed to be always in proportion to the increase of population (within certain limits,) and the means of returning to the soil the necessary elements.

The Chairman—In this case do you suppose the inhabitants consume all the produce?

Mr. Ransome—Yes.

The Chairman—If the population is redundant, do you suppose a consequent impoverishment of the soil?

Mr. Ransome said he had taken a hypothetical case—a

farm of given extent, supporting a certain number of animals during a cycle of years.

The Chairman—If I understood you right, the animals and the men would consume that produce.

Mr. Ransome—Yes. Sometimes, however, an animal would be satisfied with eating a certain quantity, and sometimes he would eat more than was required for his sustenance; a fault not confined to brutes—man also often takes a little too much. In the excrements of animals the surplus passed through unchanged, and Liebig remarked that “we cover our fields every year with seeds of weeds, which, from their nature and form, pass undigested along with the excrements through animals without being deprived of their power of germination; and yet it is considered surprising, that where they have once flourished they cannot again be expelled by all our endeavors; we think it very astonishing, while we really sow them ourselves every year. A famous botanist attached to the Dutch embassy to China, could scarcely find a single plant on the corn fields of the Chinese, except the corn itself.” By thus spreading over our corn fields the excrements of animals, we impregnate the soil with the seeds of weeds, which interrupt the growth of the crops we are seeking to cultivate. In Flanders and China animal excrements are thought little of, while human excrements are highly prized; and urine, a manure which in this country is perhaps most neglected, is with them considered best of all. When exposed for a length of time to the air, urea undergoes decomposition, uric acid and lactate of ammonia undergo decomposition, and free ammonia escapes into the air. What is left behind is collected for the purpose of manuring the ground; but it has lost the principal element which should have been saved—namely, ammonia, which, passing into the air, benefits his neighbor as much as him who collects it. This gives rise to the question, can it not be economised? In China we know they take the greatest care of it. Mr. Ransome then referred to what he had said on a former occasion respecting the influence of lime and muriate of lime, which, in certain circumstances, converted carbon of ammonia into sulphate of ammonia. He also shewed, on that occasion, that some earths had an affinity for ammonia. Professor Liebig proposed that whenever urine was kept for the purpose of manure, that it should be mixed before it underwent decomposition, with coarsely powdered gypsum, or sulphate of lime. By this means the ammonia, instead of escaping into the air, became fixed, and could be removed to the soil. This kind of manure was exceedingly useful in breaking up the masses of which the earth was composed, sub-dividing it and otherwise improving its mechanical texture. Having seen from what source nitrogen, phosphate of soda and lime, &c., might be derived, and also how they might be diminished, he would next come to the question, in what proportions were they to be added to the soils? If a proportion greater than nature pointed out were used, the plants would be over stimulated, and the produce would be diminished. It was necessary, therefore, to observe a medium in the use of these means; for, supposing that the presence of nitrogen gave the plant a power of assimilating more rapidly the carbon, the oxygen, and the hydrogen (for wherever these three existed they were generally in combination,) with the vesicle or membrane that contained the nitrogen, yet the quality of some plants would undergo a change on account of the extra portion of nitrogen. Wheat, for instance, would deteriorate in quality, and potatoes also. The latter would contain less starch, be larger, and have more cells; they would be waxy, and in Lancashire he could hardly expect such a change would be considered advantageous. The suggestion of Professor Liebig respecting the use of bone manure was important. He said, that instead of allowing the bones, simply after pulverization, to be sprinkled over the fields, they should be mixed with ten times their weight of sulphuric acid, and after remaining in contact for some time, to be diluted with 800 or 1000 parts of water, and then sprinkled over the soil. This would render the ground far more productive than if a coarse powder were sprinkled over its surface. The sandy soils of the South American coast were rendered fertile by a process not unlike that suggested by the use of the urine of men and animals. They were manured by a substance called guano, consisting of nitrate of ammonia and other ammonical salts, found in the islands of the Pacific, and abundant crops were produced. The idea was taken from the fertility produced by the feces of carnivorous birds and serpents. The next point to which he would draw their attention was,

that if they supplied the land with nitrogen, and at the same time omitted to supply it with potash, soda, magnesia, alum, or other inorganic substances, they would do it more harm than good. This had been practically decided in the vineyards, in the neighborhood of the Rhine, where some persons were in the habit of manuring their vines, with cuttings of horn and bone powder, by which means they forced the growth of their vines, and increased the quantity of their produce; but, as they neglected to supply the vines with inorganic elements, which were necessary for the plant, they completely ruined their vines. There was one poor man there whose sole dependence was on the produce of his vineyard, and as he was not able to manure his vines after the expensive manner of his neighbors, with an ingenuity which did him credit, he discovered a method of renewing his vines, which were almost worn out, and which were the only support of his old age. He observed that whenever the cuttings of the vine were buried, the grass sprung up most luxuriantly; and he reasoned thus—“If the grass springs up luxuriantly on account of these cuttings, why may not the vines?” Accordingly he applied the cuttings around the roots of the vines—inorganic elements being thus supplied to the plants, his vineyard, from being the poorest, soon became the richest in the neighborhood. In what part of the plant were these inorganic elements found? In a spreading tree they were in the largest proportion in the leaves, next in the branches, and least of all in the trunk. At the autumnal fall of the leaf they were once more returned to the soil, where they were again taken in at the spongy parts of the roots, and thus the foliage and growth of the tree were renewed from year to year. These were points bearing on practical culture, but there were one or two curiosities connected with it which he would be wrong to omit. On a former occasion he observed that one plant might contain potash, and another of the same kind soda, which showed that there was a principle of substitution in existence. This was proved in the case of a certain marattine plant, which, when growing on the shore, contained soda as its alkaline principle, but if sown on land where there was no alkali it would produce seed containing one-half soda and one-half potash, but the plants from these seeds would produce nothing but potash, shewing how one plant might replace another, where nothing else could be had. In some samples of the Jesuit’s bark, it was found that the portion of quinine was very trifling, but whenever this was the case, the deficiency was supplied by lime. On the other hand, with respect to acid, there was plenty of opium that had none of its peculiar acid, but the deficiency was replaced by sulphuric acid; so that it was sometimes necessary to deprive the soil of some of its inorganic elements, in order that a plant having a deficiency of one acid might be compensated by the supply of another. In looking forward, therefore, to a crop, the first question would be, what does the soil contain? and the next, what will the crop, which may be expected from the soil, contain? And if it were found that no relation or correspondence existed between the crop and the soil, success could not be expected; and thus the interference of the art of culture was called into existence. I have thus, gentlemen, (said Mr. Ransome) endeavored as well as I could from memory, to bring before you some of the facts recorded in Professor Liebig’s book, and I hope the seeds which have been thus cast on the earth may bring forth fruit in such an abundance as will convince the most ignorant and the most prejudiced, that science can do something for agriculture, and that Professor Liebig, in sending forth this book, may be considered as the friend and benefactor of his species.

**A NEW MANURE.**—Waste hair from tan yards, and waste tan after it is trodden up, are said to be extremely valuable as manure. A correspondent of an English Agricultural journal mentions this fact, and particularises wheat as a crop likely to be especially benefited; it has been applied about the roots of apple trees, and produced the best results. The waste matter from tan yards has not been usually put to any purpose, and if it forms good manure, it will be important to many.

**TREATISE ON SHEEP.**—Messrs. Moore & Wiley, No. 23 Minor street, Philadelphia, have published a small volume with the following title:—“A Treatise on Sheep, with the best means for their management, general treatment, and the treatment of their diseases, with a chapter on wool and the wool trade, and an additional chapter

on the management of sheep in Australia, by Ambrose Blacklock, Surgeon, Dumfries.”

The little volume, which promises to be of great value to the “wool growers” of this country, is exceedingly well got up, and has its text illustrated by numerous plates representing the different kinds of sheep, their diseases, &c.

**THE LAND BILL.**—Mr. Rayner, of N. C., in his speech in the House of Representatives, July 6th, submitted the following statement, showing the amount which each state would receive under this bill, 3,300,000 dollars to be distributed each year, and supposing the ratio of representation under the late census to be put at 60,000. If any other ratio should be agreed on, (he adds,) the relative proportion will be the same. The sums are stated in round numbers:—

Maine	\$96,000	S. Carolina	\$84,000
N. Hampshire	48,000	Georgia	108,000
Vermont	48,000	Alabama	96,000
Massachusetts	144,000	Mississippi	48,000
Connecticut	60,000	Louisiana	48,000
Rhode Island	12,000	Tennessee	144,000
New York	480,000	Kentucky	132,000
New Jersey	72,000	Ohio	300,000
Pennsylvania	336,000	Indiana	132,000
Delaware	12,000	Missouri	81,000
Maryland	72,000	Illinois	60,000
Virginia	204,000	Arkansas	12,000
N. Carolina	120,000	Michigan	36,000

**SIGNS OF BETTER TIMES.**—1. All agricultural produce commands a fair, steady compensating price, alike removed from the depressed state which sometimes has existed, or the unnatural inflation through which we have just passed.

2. Speculation has had its day, and the thousands who have been ruined, have had time to repent at their leisure. The mass of the nation are convinced that honest industry, and slow and sure profits, are far preferable to the haphazard and demoralizing influence of such basic to be rich.

3. Agriculture, it is evident, is assuming its proper place in the estimation of the public. This may be attributed in part to the knowledge respecting it, which has been distributed by agricultural journals, and in part to the results of the agricultural census, the result of which have demonstrated the paramount importance of this interest.

4. We find evidence that the mass of reading men begin to think and demand information on the subject of agriculture, in the fact that all our leading newspapers and most influential journals, are in the habit of devoting a part of their publications to the dissemination of papers interesting to the farmer.

5. In the processes of farming, yearly advances are making. We have this year seen crops of the heaviest growth, where, only a few years since, a quaking bog existed; better and more productive kinds of corn and other grain have been brought to notice; the culture of roots has been introduced, and found a most important auxiliary to the farmer; and more attention is paid to the clearing of land, and the destruction of weeds, than formerly.

6. Superior breeds of cattle, sheep and swine have been introduced, and are rapidly spreading over the country; in short, the elements of individual and national prosperity were never more fully developing themselves than now. Let the farmer be thankful.—*Cultivator.*

**THISTLE HARVEST.**—This unsailing crop is now very abundant. Those who wish to diminish the pest, should plly the sythe to them, and then put them into the mock yard. The Major says, that where they come up abundantly among wheat, it is an excellent plan to put on a glove or a leather mitten and pull them up. The wheat will start forward and soon shade those that are broken off or come up afterwards so that they cannot come to maturity.—The great supply of thistle seed comes from those that spring up by the road-side and about walls and wood piles and other neglected spots. Here the seeds ripen and are borne abroad on the wings of the wind, and are thereby planted in the fields and cultivated grounds ready to spring up during the next season, and annoy the farmer by their unwelcome presence.

**Saliva in Horses** can be cured by mixing a table spoonful of flour of sulphur in the salt that is given them from time to time.

From the Nashville Banner.

**SHOWER OF BLOOD.**

We publish to-day from the Lebanon Chronicle, some further details of the "Shower of blood" which fell in Wilson County. Our readers may rest assured of the facts stated, however we are unable to account for them. A scientific gentleman of this city left here on Saturday, on a visit to the scene of this phenomenon, for the purpose of gathering further particulars.

From the Lebanon Chronicle.

The following communication is from too respectable a source to question its verity; we therefore give place to it. We will add that we have evidences of the fact, that the substance mentioned in the communication, did fall from the heavens in a shower, that no man in his senses can doubt. Although no one save the negroes saw it fall, yet the manner it was found spattered upon the tobacco leaves, could leave no doubt upon the mind of any one who saw it, that it had fallen. We have seen and examined the substance—what it is, we do not pretend to conjecture; but it looks like putrid flesh, or a bloody glutinous matter concreted, and smells very nauseous. It is indeed a miraculous occurrence but not stranger than true. Scores of men of unimpeachable veracity, will testify to the fact of the substance being found as described in the following communication, and none who have seen the place, and learned the circumstances, pretend to question its having fallen from the heavens.

[From the Chronicle.]

Mr. Editor—It is with some degree of diffidence I submit to the task of making the following communication to the public through your paper; being well aware that from the novelty and strangeness of the occurrence which I shall relate, I shall subject myself to the incredulity of the public. But as the facts can be attested by a number of witnesses of the first respectability, I feel indemnified in making the statement. The facts are as follows:

On Saturday last, a young man brought to my office a small piece of tobacco leaf, with an apparent drop of coagulated blood upon it, and requested an analysis of it—stating, that the substance upon the leaf had fallen from a cloud in the heavens. This excited my curiosity, and led me to make particular enquiry, relative to this strange phenomenon. I ascertained that Mr. J. M. Peyton, of Lebanon, was in the neighborhood at the time this strange shower fell, which led me to enquire of him. Mr. P.'s statement was, that he was at the house of Mr. E. M. Chandler, living on Spring Creek, about five miles from Lebanon, on Friday last—that about 1 or 2 o'clock P. M. two of Mr. Chandler's negroes came in from the tobacco field, where they had been at work, and stated to their master, that it had been raining blood in the tobacco field. Whereupon, Mr. Chandler, accompanied by Mr. Peyton and Mr. D. S. Dew, returned with the negroes, and found, promiscuously scattered over a portion of the field, drops of blood, adhering to the tobacco leaves. This statement of Mr. Peyton's—he being a gentleman of strict veracity—induced me to go in person to the spot, and examine for myself. Accordingly, on Sunday last, I went to the house of Mr. Chandler, who, in company with Mr. P. R. and John Jackson, proceeded with me to the tobacco ground. Mr. Chandler stated in substance the same that Mr. Peyton had stated; that his negroes were at work in the tobacco, and about half past 11, or 12 o'clock, a rattling noise like rain or hail was heard by them, falling around, which they soon found to be drops of blood falling. On looking up, the negroes state they saw a small red cloud, passing swiftly from east to west, immediately over their heads, and which, soon after passing over them, disappeared entirely.

Mr. Chandler and Mr. Peyton visited the place about 3 o'clock the same evening, and found, as they thought, drops of blood and small portions of flesh. Mr. C. stated he found a piece which he thought to be about half flesh and half fat, an inch and a half or two inches long, all of which produced a very offensive smell, extending all over the field.

My visit was not until Saturday evening about 50 hours from the time the matter fell; at that time there was no odor perceptible, except when the particles were brought very near—the smell was then very offensive. I examined the drops on the tobacco leaves, and satisfied myself that they had fallen perpendicularly on the leaves. I also examined for the extent of the shower, and ascertained it to have been from forty to sixty yards in width,

and six or eight hundred yards in length. A forest on the east, and a field of weeds on the west, prevented our tracing it beyond the green tobacco. It was thinly scattered, probably a drop for every 10 or 15 feet—although irregularly dispersed. I gathered from the leaves some particles, which appeared to have been clear blood, uncombined with any thing else; others seemed to be finely pulverised muscle and blood mixed, and others composed of muscular fibre and adipose matter interspersed, one portion of which I found an oily exudation issuing from, caused by the heat of the sun. As to the quantity which probably fell, I could get no satisfactory account, so as to make a probable statement; but that it did fall in a shower over the space above mentioned, and that it is animal matter are facts unquestionable by me—both from my own observation and from the statements of the gentlemen before named who are both men of unquestionable veracity.

Mr. Chandler and his neighbors have great confidence in the veracity of his boy, who witnessed the falling of the matter. I forbear any further comments at present; I would only add that I have sent all the matter I could collect to Dr. Gerard Troost, of Nashville, who will, no doubt exhibit it to any person who may call on him, where they may examine for themselves, and give the philosophical cause if they please.

[From the Republican Banner.]

SIR—As much curiosity and speculation has been excited by the late meteoric phenomenon which is said to have recently occurred in Wilson county, and of the truth of which none can doubt, and as many enquiries have been made whether such a strange fact has ever before been observed or recorded, I am induced to offer you for publication the following extract from one of several essays by Mr. Espy, published some years ago in the Journal of the Franklin Institute. As the phenomena mentioned by Mr. Espy are adduced as well established facts merely to illustrate and prove this Theory of rain, hail storms, &c. the reference to them is, of course, brief.

Mr. Espy says:

"There are many well authenticated accounts of showers of dust, and *bloody*, or, as I imagine, reddish rain, have fallen, and also of hail, with earthy or stony matter contained in the stones, and some with green leaves of forest trees; all these facts are mere corollaries from the theory. Prof. Ziemermann analyzed the sediment of some red rain which fell on the 3d of May, 1821, near Geissen, and found it to contain chrome, oxide of iron, silex, lime, carbon, and a trace of magnesia, but no nickel. On the 13th of August, 1824, in the city of Mendoza in Buenos Ayres, dust fell from a black cloud, and at the same time, in another place, distant forty leagues, the same phenomenon occurred.

In Persia, near Mount Ararat, there fell, in the month of April, 1827, a shower of *seeds*, which, in some places, covered the earth to the depth of six inches. The sheep ate of it, and men made a tolerable bread of it. The French ambassador in Russia obtained some specimens of this grain, and sent them to Paris, where they were analyzed and examined by M. M. Desfontains and Thenard, and determined to be lichens of the genus *Lecidea*."

These accounts are taken by Mr. Espy from M. Pouillet, a distinguished French writer on meteorology, and their truth, we presume, cannot be doubted. Therefore, it will be seen, that something similar to the Wilson county phenomenon has occurred before. It is to be hoped that Prof. Troost may obtain enough of the matter deposited to ascertain its true nature by analysis. Should he not be so fortunate, it may still be well conjectured to be not very unlike the sediment of the bloody rain analyzed by Prof. Ziemermann in Germany, with the addition of some other matters, or in different proportions, or both. It is barely conceivable that it should be *really animal* matter which has been taken up and deposited in the manner represented. But it is not impossible; yet it is far more probable that the combination, whatever analogy it may bear, or even identity it may possess with flesh and blood, was not the result of the living principle, but was effected of matters taken from the surface, or already in the atmosphere, or both, by some other process of nature's great laboratory.

In a late account of Aerolites, I find the following extract which is further confirmatory that the phenomenon is not without precedent:

"Aerolites and Meteoric iron are not the only products of meteors which have fallen upon the earth after

explosions. Numerous instances are mentioned of black and red dust, which has covered great tracts of land; and it is remarkable that such dust has generally been found to contain small hard angular grains resembling augite. There have also been cases of the fall of a soft gelatinous matter of a red color like *coagulated blood*, which have given rise to the stories of the sky having rained blood. Such appearances have not unfrequently accompanied the fall of stones. On the 16th November, 1755, rain of a red color fell around Ulm and the lake of Constance, and on the same day in Russia and Sweden. The red water was of an acid taste, probably from the presence of sulphuric acid; and the precipitate, which was flaky like snow, when dried, was attracted by the magnet. In the night of the 5th March, 1803, a red dust, in some places accompanied by rain fell in different parts of Italy. In Apulia, there was first a very high wind with much noise and then a reddish black cloud appeared coming from the S. East, from which there fell a yellowish-red rain, and afterwards a quantity of red dust. It continued the whole of the following day and part of the succeeding; the dust was examined and was not found to be volcanic. Fabroni, in the *Annales de Chimie*, tom. LXXXIII., says that near Arezzo, in March, 1813, the ground being then covered with snow, there was a shower of fresh snow of a red color, which continued for many hours, accompanied the whole time with a sound like that of the violent dashing of the waves at a distance; the greatest fall was accompanied with two or three explosions like thunder. The red snow being melted, a precipitate was obtained of a manganese color, which yielded a silica, lime alumina, iron and manganese."

Some of these cases are pretty nearly in point. W.

**THE "SHOWER OF FLESH AND BLOOD."**

Our readers are greatly indebted to the Principal of that excellent institution the Alexandria Boarding School, for the following scientific elucidation of the phenomenon in Tennessee, designated by the above heading:

ALEXANDRIA BOARDING SCHOOL, 9 mo. 2d, 1841.

FRIENDS GALES & SEATON: I notice in the *Intelligencer* of to-day, under the head of "Atmospherical Phenomenon," an article from the *Nashville Banner*, describing what is stated to have been a "shower of flesh and blood," in the vicinity of Lebanon, Tennessee. The same account, or a similar one, has also been published in several other papers. There are many persons of that peculiar temperament that is unfavorably affected by intelligence of so unusual and awful a character; to such it may be a relief to learn that the phenomenon alluded to finds its ready explanation in a well-ascertained fact in the economy of insects. In the interesting and instructive work of *KIRBY & SPENCE*, on the "Natural History of Insects," are the following remarks, which explain the whole subject:

"Many species of *Lepidoptera*, [Butterflies] when they merge from the pupa or chrysalis state discharge a reddish fluid, which, in some instances, where their numbers have been considerable, has produced the appearance of a shower of blood; and by this natural fact all those bloody showers, recorded by historians as preternatural, and regarded, where they happened, as fearful prognostics of impending evils, are stripped of their terrors, and reduced to the class of events that happened in the common course of Nature. That insects are the cause of these [supposed] showers is no recent discovery; for Sleidan relates that, in the year 1553, a vast multitude of butterflies swarmed through a part of Germany, and sprinkled plants, leaves, buildings, clothes, and linen, with bloody drops, as if it had rained blood. But the most interesting account of an event of this kind is given by Reaumur, from whom we learn that, in the beginning of July, 1806, the suburbs of Aix, and a considerable extent of country round it, were covered with what appeared to be a shower of blood. We may conceive the amazement and stupor of the populace upon such a discovery, the alarm of the citizens, the grave reasonings of the learned. All agreed, however, in attributing the appearance to the powers of darkness, and in regarding it as the prognostic and precursor of some direful misfortune about to befall us. Fear and prejudice would have taken deep root upon this occasion, and might have produced fatal effects upon some weak minds, had not M. Peiresc, a celebrated philosopher of that place, paid attention to insects. A chrysalis, which he preserved in his cabinet, let him into the secret of this mysterious shower. Hearing a fluttering, which informed him his insect was arrived at its per-

fect state, he opened the box in which he kept it; the animal flew out, and left behind it a red spot. He compared this with the spots of the bloody shower, and found they were alike. At the same time he observed there was a prodigious quantity of butterflies flying about and that the drops of the miraculous rain were not to be found upon the tiles nor even upon the upper surface of the stones, but chiefly in cavities and places where rain could not easily come. Thus did this judicious observer dispel the ignorant fears and terror which a natural phenomenon had caused."—Vol. 1, page 35.

Those wishing further information on the subject will find it in *Comstock's Physiology*, and in No. LXXIV of Harper's Family Library.

The instance mentioned in the Nashville account, of flesh appearing with the blood, no doubt was the result of the insect having perished in the process of transformation.

BENJAMIN HALLOWELL.

THE SHOWER OF BLOOD, &c.

NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER 7, 1841.

F. MARKE, Jr. Cor. Sec'y National Institution.

DEAR SIR: The papers contain of late various accounts of a supposed *rain of blood*, which is said to have occurred towards the end of last month in Wilson county, Tennessee; and as public curiosity seems to have been considerably excited by the announcement of the fact, allow me to suggest a few ideas on the subject, having during my life, which has been in great part devoted to the study of natural science, had several opportunities of investigating facts of the same nature. Accounts from the most remote antiquity, as well as the chronicles of the middle ages, often mention showers of blood, which in times of ignorance and superstition were considered as an awful warning of some impending public calamity. The people on such occasions would crowd their temples, and victims were offered as expiation to the supposed incensed deities; and, up to our days, the minds of the European peasantry are still struck with dread at the appearance of such phenomena, and religious processions are generally resorted to.

Those fond of the marvellous will probably see with sorrow that all this scaffolding of terror must fall before the more careful investigations of modern science; and their astonishment, and I could perhaps say their disappointment, will be the greater when they learn that an *insect*—yes, sir, a contemptible insect—is the cause.

Several insects of the order of Homoptera, (cercopis, &c.) and also a few nocturnal moths, have the property of producing a liquid of a red color, having in all regards the appearance of blood or putrid matter; and when they fly in great numbers over a field, the numerous drops which cover the leaves of plants produce the appearance of this miraculous rain. We must, add that the matter can in no case be considered as blood, as all the animals of the class of insects are deprived of warm and colored blood; or, in a word, that, as their circulation is totally different from what takes place in animals of a spurious organization, it can only be considered as their excrements, or, with more probability, as a particular secretion, similar, as to its production, to the wax, the gum, lac, &c. &c.

I remain, dear sir, with great regard, your friend and servant,

F. CASTELNAU.

CAUSE OF SLABBERING IN HORSES.—This disease has frequently been attributed to second crop clover. A late number of the Farmers' Cabinet quotes from the Memoirs of the Philadelphia Society for Promoting Agriculture (vol. ii, p. 350) an experiment, the result of which goes far to exonerate clover, in any stage from the charge of any poisonous quality, but makes it quite evident that at least one of the causes of slabbering is the spotted spurge, (*Euphorbia maculata*), which is generally found in second crop clover. The writer says:

I procured a small quantity of the euphorbia maculata, and gave it to a horse enveloped in a small quantity of clover, carefully gathered, stem by stem, and perfectly free from all other vegetables or extraneous matter whatever; a preternatural discharge of saliva took place in half an hour. This experiment was frequently repeated, and invariably with the same result. Again, to prove that clover did not contribute towards it, in some cases other grasses were used as an envelope, with the same effect; and when the horse was perfectly free from slabbering, a considerable quantity of clover, carefully gathered without the euphorbia, was given to him, and no such effect;

was produced. These experiments I considered sufficient to prove that the euphorbia maculata would produce salivation, and I am induced to think it is the general, if not the only cause of it. This plant, delighting in the well cultivated clover-ground, sends off many slender spreading branches about the height of the second crop, and is then very liable to be taken in with the clover by the larger-mouthed animals; but whether this species of euphorbia has flourished for a long time in this part of the country, or has but lately migrated into it, I have not ascertained; but, in either case, its having but recently intruded itself into the pasture fields can be easily accounted for; it comes forward, flowers, and ripens its seed about the same time with the second crop of clover; and, as clover seed is generally gathered from the second crop, it must be very liable to have some of the seed of euphorbia gathered with it, and may, in this way, be extensively diffused over the country.

HOUSE WIFE'S DEPARTMENT.

MINCE PIES.—These pies should be baked in standing or plain paste, and should always be made with covers, handsomely ornamented with paste leaves and eaten warm. In cold weather they are as good the second or third day after they are baked as the first, and may be kept a week, to eat very well, but should always be warmed on a stove, or in an oven, before they are eaten, as they are never sent to table cold. If by keeping them several days, they are likely to get too dry, raise the top crusts a little, put in a spoonful or two of white wine, sweet cider, or veal gravy to moisten them; then close the paste again as neatly as possible.

PICKLED EGGS.—Boil them till they are hard; throw them into cold water immediately while hot, which will make the shells slip off smoothly without breaking the eggs. Boil some red beets till very soft; peel and mash them fine, and put enough of the juice into some plain cold vinegar to color it a fine pink; add a very little salt, pepper, nutmeg and cloves; put the eggs into a jar, and transuse the vinegar, &c. over them. They make a delightful garnish to remain whole, for poultry, game and fish, and still more beautiful when cut in ringlets.—*Kentucky Housewife*.

SALTING MEAT.—The method for which a patent has been lately taken out by Mr. Payne, is thus described.—The meat to be salted is placed within a strong iron vessel, whence the brine flows into the receiver, until it is about half filled; the air-pump is then again worked to draw off every particle of air from the meat, &c. The brine is then permitted to fill the receiver, and a farther quantity is injected by means of a common forcing-pump, the pressure being regulated by a safety-valve loaded with about 100 or 150 lbs. upon the square inch. After remaining under this pressure for about fifteen minutes, the meat is cured, and may be taken out of the receiver.

BALTIMORE MARKET.

Cattle.—About 600 head of Beef cattle were offered this morning at the drove yards, and only 170 sold. A few of extra quality brought \$5.50 and the balance were sold at prices ranging from \$3.75 to \$5 per hundred lbs. A drove of about 80 head were taken North and the balance laid over. Live Hogs are in fair supply and we quote at \$4.50 to \$5 per 100 lbs.

Flour.—We are advised of sales of about 600 barrels good standard brands of Howard street Flour from stores on Saturday at \$6.44. This morning sales of some parcels were made at the same price, but later in the day \$6.50 has been paid for upwards of 1000 barrels; and some holders are now refusing to sell at the named rate. The wagon price is unsettled.

Sales of City Mills Flour were made to-day at \$6.50 per bbl. Susquehanna Flour is held firmly at \$6.75.

Grain.—Sales of several parcels of best Pennsylvania red Wheats were made to-day at \$1.42 and \$1.43. A parcel or two, injured by weevil, was sold at \$1.32, and some having smut at \$1.35. Sales of fair to strictly prime Md. red wheats have been made to-day at \$1.30 to \$1.40.

Sales of prime Penna. yellow Corn to-day at 68 cents. We quote Md. white at 65 to 66 cents, and Md. yellow at 67 cents. A sale of good Md. Rye was made to-day at 75 cents; and a parcel of fair Penna. at the same price; good Penna. is worth 77 to 78 cents.

We quote Md. Oats 29 to 40 cents.

Provisions.—We are not advised of any operations in provisions to-day. Holders are asking last week's prices which we quote, viz. Mess Pork at \$11.50; Prime at \$6; Baltimore packed Mess Beef at \$12; No. 1 at \$9, and Prime at \$7. The supply of strictly prime Western Bacon continues limited, and the article in good demand at 54 to 6 cents for assorted. Hams

of the same description are held at 6 to 9 cents. Sides at 51 cents. Shoulders at 4 to 5 cents, and Joints at 24 cents. Inferior qualities are plenty and dull at prices differing according to quality. We quote Western No. 1 in kegs at 8 cents.

Cotton.—Sales of 200 bales Upland at 11 cents.

Cloverseed.—A sale at \$6.

Timothy Seed.—We are advised of sales of some small parcels at \$8.50 per bushel, which is an advance.

Plaster.—We note sales at \$2.75 per ton.

Sugars.—At auction to-day, 120 hhds. Porto Rico were sold at \$7.10 to \$7.75; 137 hhds. ditto \$7.55 to \$8.00; and 46 lbs. do. at \$7.30 to \$7.60—The stock of New Orleans Sugar is very small. We note sales by private contract at \$7 to \$8.

Tobacco.—The receipts this week are unusually large, the whole inspection being about 1600 hhds.—The quantity in market and less animated demand than before, caused holders, in order to effect sales, to submit to a decline on the inferior and common sorts of Maryland, and in some instances on the middling qualities, of which descriptions sales to some extent were made within the last two or three days. The principal sales were at \$4 to \$6.25. We quote inferior and common Maryland at \$3.50 to \$4.50; middling to good \$5 to \$7.50; good \$8 to \$10; and fine \$10 to \$13. Ohio Tobacco is much neglected this week, the sales being confined to small parcels within the range of former quotations, which we continue, viz. common to middling \$4.50 to \$5.25; good \$5.50 to \$6.50; fine red and wavy \$8 to \$12; fine yellow \$7.50 to \$10; and extra wavy \$12 to \$14. The inspections of the week comprise 1265 hhds Maryland; 322 hhds. Ohio; and 10 hhds. Virginia—total 1597 hhds.

Wool.—Sales of Wool to some extent have taken place during the week, principally in the middling grades at 35 to 42 cents. Some sales of washed native have also been made at 30 to 33 cents as in condition. The last sales of prime Saxony fleece were at 50 cents 6 months.

At Alexandria, on Saturday, the wagon price of Flour was \$6.50—no sales from stores. Wheat dull; Corn 65c offered, 68c asked.

At New York.—The sales of Rice are in small parcels at 3.75 to 7.50. Several sales of Salt have been made on terms not public. Cloverseed firm at 9 to 10 cents. There is more demand for Sugar and the sales are large, N. Orleans at 6 to 7.5c; Porto Rico at 6 to 8.5c; brown Havanas at 6 to 7.5c; Tobacco is quiet. The sales of Cotton are larger than before, say 5100 bales at steady prices. Genesee Flour is a little better. Buyers offer \$6.75, and holders demand 6.81. There have been considerable sales at \$6.75, but it would be difficult now to buy at that price. Corn is 7.5 to 7.75c. Sales Michigan flour at 6.60 to 7.50; 1000 bbls. Ohio, Williams brand, sold at \$6.75.

At Richmond, on Friday.—In this city the news from England came on Sunday, and our flour dealers commenced coolly Monday morning with an advance of about 50c, but that is not maintained to-day by sales. Holders ask it, but we believe there are no sales. Tobacco continues dull, and the tendency of prices is to recede. Flour—No recent sales have been made of City Mills Flour. Holders generally ask \$7 for country—light sales yesterday and to-day at \$6.75. Grain—Wheat—Best red \$1.30 per bushel; best white and in desirable parcels, \$1.35 per bushel. These prices are the extremes of the market. Corn—Sales at 65c. Oats 42c per bushel. Cattle Market—Cattle on the hoof \$5 to \$7 per hundred pounds, according to quality; rough fat 5 to 7c per lb; mutton \$3 to \$6, according to quality.

At Philadelphia, on Saturday.—Cotton—The sales are small, and principally to manufacturers; Upland fair sold at 12c—prices are rather drooping. Tobacco—The market is languid, the only sales reported is 35 hhds Kentucky at 7.5c. The stock at present in the warehouse is 2700 hhds. Cleared this week 105 hhds. Wool—Is arriving freely from the country, and finds ready sales at rather improved prices. Cattle—Beef Cattle, 589 head offered, mostly sold at 54 to 60c; extra 61 to 64c; inferior 41c.—Two lots of 180 head for the N. Y. market—all Penna. cattle. Flour and Meal.—The market this week has been unsettled; on the arrival of the Britannia at Boston, with dates from England to the 19th ultimo, expectations of the probable failure of the crops were entertained by many, from the nature of the intelligence from some of the grain districts; but on a further examination of the various accounts it does not appear that up to that date the weather had been so unfavorable as seriously to cause fears for the harvest; the next steamship (the Great Western) which was to have sailed the 4th inst. will no doubt bring definite intelligence on this important point. Meanwhile Flour, which had run up to \$7 per bbl, with sales, has again receded to \$6.75, at which rates sales have been made of several thousand bbls within the last two days; the receipts are increasing both on Broad street and on the Delaware, and a further decline may be submitted to; Rye Flour is steady at \$3.62; sales of Penna. Corn Meal in bbls at \$3.37; nothing done in Brandywine Meal. Grain.—There has been no transactions in Wheat for some days; the advance which occurred on the receipt of the news from England has not been sustained, and prices are again going back; it has been offered at \$1.50 per bushel, without buyers, they being disposed to wait the arrival of further advices from that country. Sales Southern yellow Corn at 70 to 72c, and white 68c per bushel.

## CHEMICAL LECTURES.

The subscriber intends delivering a course of Chemical lectures as connected with Agriculture and the Arts and Sciences. The lectures will be delivered to separate classes to suit the convenience of those who desire to cultivate this interesting science.

The science of Chemistry is of great interest to the Agriculturist, Manufacturer, and Professional gentleman.

A Public Lecture, explanatory of the manner in which he shall lecture, or teach the science, will be given on Thursday Evening, 23d inst, at 7 o'clock, in the basement of the Universalist Church, Calvert st.

WM. BAER.

## MANAGER WANTED.

Wanted at Hampton, 8 miles from Baltimore, on the York road, a MAN fully competent to the duty of OVERSEER, of a large farm. A person accustomed to the management of slaves, with satisfactory testimonials of character, may obtain a desirable and permanent situation on application to

no 13 61

JOHN RIDGELY of H.

## DURHAM SHORT HORN CATTLE.

3 thorough bred COWS, and 3 three year old BULLS, Herd Book animals, bred by late Stephen Williams, esq.

Also, 30 Dishley, or New Leicester BUCKS and EWES, of great size and beauty. For sale by the subscriber at Northborough, Worcester, Mass.

no 13 48

B. D. WHITING.

## FOR SALE—AN IRISH GRAZIER BOAR,

Bred by a distinguished breeder, Wm. Murdoch, Esq. of Annaroe county, Monaghan, Ireland, and imported by J. S. Skinner, Esq. in the ship *Pocahontas*, in the spring of 1840—he is about 2 years old, and well formed—price \$75. Apply to

S. SANDS.

DURHAM & DEVON STOCK, HOGS, SHEEP, &c. A gentleman retiring from his farm for the present, authorizes me to dispose of the greater part of his farm stock, consisting of Durham and Devon Bulls, Cows and Calves, and crosses of these breeds, also crosses on good country stock—Berkshire, China, Weyburn, Chester, (as also crosses of these,) Sows, Boars, Shoots and Pigs—and some fine half Leicester Ewes. For further information apply to

no 8

S. SANDS.

## NOTICE FOR A "SILK AGENT."

A gentleman, residing in Cambridge, Md. who has been for two years engaged in the "Silk Culture," has a silk establishment one mile from the town, and he finds, from experience, that a due share of his personal attention is impracticable:

He has a highly approved machinery for the conversion of cocoons into "sowing silk," and foliage and fixtures for about two millions of worms. He wishes to employ an Agent on "shares" or otherwise, who will bring testimonials from competent judges of his fitness in skill and general deportment to conduct, personally, the business of feeding and manufacturing, at the point above named.

N. B. The Editor of the Am. Farmer has the address.

3t.

## A FAIR HIRE.

By the month or year, the latter will be preferred if all things are suitable, will be given for a good labourer to work on a farm in Stafford county, Virginia. The location is healthy at all seasons, and the work required will be every thing appertaining to judicious farming—such as cutting, mauling, fencing, ditching, the care of stock, &c. No applicant will be received without a testimonial of good character in every respect, more especially for industry and sobriety. Reference to the Editor of the Am. Farmer.

sep. 1. '74

H. H. CONWAY, Stafford C. H. Va.

## CLARMOUNT NURSERY, NEAR BALTIMORE.

From this time to the middle of October is an excellent time to plant Strawberry Plants, and Bulbous Roots. The planting however, of the latter may be continued two months longer. During the past year, in addition to the proprietor's former Stock, he has collected some choice varieties, which are under culture for filling orders, and will mention here a few of the STRAWBERRY PLANTS.—Hovey's Seedling, Keene's Seedling, Bishop's Orange, Early Virginia, Extra Early Scarlet, and such as are liable to increase fast with male or unproductive Plants, have been examined when in bloom, and nearly all the males removed. Those who are unacquainted with Hovey's Seedling may be informed that owing to the high character, and the award of the highest premiums given to the two last seasons by the Committee on fruit of the Horticultural Society of Boston, has enabled the originator of them to dispose of a large quantity at five dollars per doz. this and last season. The proprietor having procured and cultivated them to some extent of for them now at two dollars per doz. He would also take pleasure to show persons who will have occasion to purchase now, or during the approaching season, his very extensive stock of thirty grafted fruit trees, English Gooseberry and other Shrubs, Fruit Plants, Evergreen and other large ornamental trees, suitable for planting in streets and lawns; imported Moss and other Roses, and ornamental Shrubs, &c. &c. For further particular, names and prices, see printed Catalogue, lately published, and to be obtained gratis, by mail post paid, of the proprietor, or of his Agent, R. Sinclair, Jr. & Co. Light st. Baltimore.

ROBT. SINCLAIR Sen'r.

P. S. Having been often solicited to sell Flowers put up in handsome bouquets, and having near half an acre of Dahlias in bloom, with a general assortment of other Flowering Plants, they will in future be put up when ordered, on application to the head gardener.

sep. 1.

R. S.

## STEAMING APPARATUS.

With a Boiler and Steam Tub of about five hundred gallons capacity each, in complete order for immediate use. Steaming or boiling it consumes a very small quantity of wood—it has been in use year, and cost the owner \$450.—The owner having no further use for it will take \$150. Apply to

SAML. SANDS.

## PORTABLE THRASHING MACHINES AND HORSE POWERS.

The undersigned are prepared to supply any number of their patent Thrashing Machines and Horse Powers, which are made on the same plan as those sold the last several years and which have given entire satisfaction to all who have used them.

Certificates can be produced which speak in the highest terms of their superior strength and capacity. They will be sold at the following prices, viz:

Two horse powers, with thrasher and fixtures complete, \$160 00  
Four horse, 210 00

An experienced machinist will be sent to put up machines when required, for whose services an extra (moderate) charge will be made.

ROBT. SINCLAIR, Jr. &amp; Co.

Manufacturers and Seedsmen, 60 Light st.

## MARTINEAU'S IRON HORSE-POWER.

The above cut represents this horse-power, for which the subscriber is proprietor of the patent-right for Maryland, Delaware, and the Eastern Shore of Virginia; and he would most respectfully urge upon those wishing to obtain a horse power, to examine this before purchasing elsewhere; for beauty, compactness and durability it has never been surpassed.

Threshing Machines, Wheat Fans. Cultivators, Harrows and the common hand Corn Sheller constantly on hand, and for sale at the lowest prices.

Agricultural Implements of any peculiar model made to order at the shortest notice.

Castings for all kinds of ploughs, constantly on hand by the pound or ton. A liberal discount will be made to country merchants who purchase to sell again.

Mr. Hussey manufactures his reaping machines at this establishment.

R. B. CHENOWETH,

corner of Front & Ploughman sts. near Baltimore st. Bridge, or No. 20, Pratt street.

Baltimore, mar 31, 1841

## AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

The subscriber, referring to former advertisements for particulars, offers the following valuable implements to the farmers and planters of the United States:

A MACHINE for boring holes in the ground for posts, price \$5

A MACHINE for mortising posts, sharpening rails for fence, for sawing wood in the forests, and planing boards, &c. 150

A HORSE POWER on the plan of the original stationary power; the castings of this machine weigh 850 lbs. 130

The above is of sufficient strength for 6 or 8 horses; one for 2 or 4 horses will cost about 75 to 100

The DITCHING-MACHINE, which has cut more than 20 miles of ditch in one season.

A MACHINE for HUSKING, SHELLING, SEPARATING, WINNOWING, and putting in the bag, corn or any kind of grain, at the rate of 600 bushels of corn, per day, or 2000 bushels after the husk is taken off.

A MACHINE for PLANTING COTTON, CORN, BEETS, RUTA BAGA, CARROTS, TURNIPS, onions, and all kinds of garden seeds—the most valuable machine. 25

Also, CORN & COB CRUSHERS, Morticing & Planing machines, Tenndning do; Gear Drill Stocks, Ratchet Drills, Screw Setters, Turning Lathes and Circular Saw Arbors, and benches for the same, &c.; and Cutting and cleaning Chisels for mortising machines. GEO. PAGE,

100 BUSHELS RED CHAFF BEARDED WHEAT, For seed, for sale by SAML. SANDS, Farmer office.

## BLOODED HORSES.

CHANTICLEER, one of the best native bred horses in the U. States, is offered for sale, or would be exchanged for Durham or Devon cattle, Dishley and Bakewell Sheep, and Berkshire or Irish Grazier hogs. Chanticleer as will be seen by reference to Edgar's Stud Book, page 146, is full brother to Old Isabella, the dam of Pictor, and other fine runners; he is a beautiful dark brown horse 15 hands 3 1-2 inches high, and very well formed; bred by the late Jas. B. Green, esq. of Nansemond county, Va. and foaled 1826—he is said to be as hearty and vigorous now as ever—he was sold 3 years ago for \$3000, and upwards of 2000 has since been offered and refused for him.—The owner wishing to get from horses to other stock will now sell or exchange him for stock above mentioned for \$1900—his colts will challenge comparison with any in the country.

Two FILIES, one rising two years, the other one year.—The first is a grey, the other a bay. Also, a Colt about three months old, a beautiful bay with a spot in his forehead. The following is the pedigree of the two first:

Dam, DAIRY MAID, was got by Zahara out of Fanny Fairmaid. Zahara, dapple grey, foaled 8th April, 1839, by Thornton's Rattler—his dam by Winter's Arabian, grand dam, Alexandrina, (half sister to Lady Lighfoot) by the imported Alexander, g. g. dam Taylor's famous Black Maria. See Turf Register, vol. 3, p. 586.

FANNY FAIRMAID, ch. m. foaled 15th May, 1827, was got by Rob Roy.—Her dam, Fairmaid, bred by Gov. Sprig, of Maryland, was got by First Consul; her grandam, Jane Lowndes, by Thornton's imported Driver, (by Lord Egremont's Driver) her g. g. d. Modesty, by Hall's Union; her g. g. g. d. by Galloway's Solim, her g. g. g. d. imported mare from the Duke of Hamilton's stock by Spot; her g. g. g. g. d. by Cartouch; her g. g. g. g. g. d. by Edinburgh; her g. g. g. g. g. d. by old Traveller, and her g. g. g. g. g. g. d. by Childers, out of a Barb mare. See Turf Register, vol. 3, p. 586

The Fillies are by the celebrated imported horse John Bull; the Colt is out of the same mare by the famous horse Captain.—For terms and farther particulars apply to

SAML SANDS,

Office of the American Farmer.

## CABBAGE SEED.

The subscriber has just received from Mr. Landreth a fresh supply of Cabbage Seeds for fall sowing; they are this year's growth, and Mr. Landreth's own raising.

a 11 J. S. EASTMAN.

## JOHN T. DURDING, Agricultural Implement Manufacturer, Grant and Elliott street, near Pratt st. in the rear of Messrs. Dinsmore &amp; Kyle's, Baltimore,

Anxious to render satisfaction to his friends and the public, has prepared a stock of implements in his line, manufactured by experienced workmen, with materials selected with care; among them, Rice's Improved Wheat Fan, said to be the best in use, and highly approved of at the recent Fair at Elliott's Mills,

\$25

Straw Cutters, from

\$15 to 25

Corn Shellers, hand or horse power,

13 to 25

Threshing Machines with horse powers, warranted, and well attended in putting up,

\$15

Corn and Cob Mills, new pattern.

1

The Wiley Plough, Beach's do, Chenoweth's do, New York do, self sharpening do, hill-side do of 2 sizes, left hand Ploughs of various sizes, Harrows, hinged or plain; Cultivators, expanding or plain, 4 sizes; Wheat Cradles, Grass Scythes hung, &amp;c.

1

Casting for machinery or ploughs, wholesale or retail;

1

Himes' Singletrees, and a general assortment of Tools for farm or garden purposes, all of which will be sold on the most pleasing terms to suit purchasers.

14

LIME FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES.

The subscribers have erected kilns for burning Lime on the farm of Minchin Lloyd, Esq. at the mouth of Pickawaux Creek, on the Potomac, and are now prepared to furnish farmers and planters with the article, of a superior quality for the above purposes, at the low price of ten cents per bushel, delivered on board vessels; and there will be no detention to the vessels receiving the same. All orders will be punctually attended to, addressed to Milton Hill Post Office, Charles county, Md. ap 7<sup>th</sup> LLOYD & DOWNING.

## LIME—LIME.

The subscribers are prepared to furnish any quantity of Oyster Shell or Stone Lime of a very superior quality at short notice at their Kilns at Spring Garden, near the foot of Eutaw street, Baltimore, and upon as good terms as can be had at any other establishment in the State.

They invite the attention of farmers and those interested in the use of the article, and would be pleased to communicate any information either verbally or by letter. The Kilns being situated immediately upon the water, vessels can be loaded very expeditiously.

N. B. Wood received in payment at market price.

ap. 22 3m E. J. COOPER &amp; Co.

## PLOUGHS! PLOUGHS!! PLOUGHS!!!

A. G. &amp; N. U. MOTT,

Corner of Ensor and Forrest-streets, O. T., near the Belle-Air Market,

Being the only Agents for this State, are now manufacturing the celebrated WILEY'S PATENT DOUBLE POINTED CULTIVATOR PLOUGH, of the New York Composition Castings, which is pronounced by some of the most eminent and experienced farmers in the country, to be the best which they have ever used, not only as regards the ease and facility with which it turns the sod, it being nearly one draught lighter than ploughs of the ordinary kind, but also for its economical qualities; for with this plough the Farmer is his own Blacksmith. Every farmer who has an eye to his own interest, would find that interest promoted by calling and examining for himself. We also make to order, other ploughs of various kinds, CULTIVATORS, CORN SHELLERS, GRAIN CRADLES, STRAW CUTTERS, RICE'S IMPROVED WHEAT FAN, &c. &c. Thankful for past favors, we shall endeavor to merit a continuance of the same. ma 3 13

## HARVEST TOOLS.

J. S. EASTMAN, in Pratt near Hanover street, has on hand the real Waldron Grain and Grass Scythes; also American Grass Scythes that are warranted, and returnable if not good; superior Pennsylvania made Grain Cradles; a prime lot of Grass Seeds at wholesale or retail; 400 Connecticut made Hay Rakes, equal to any ever offered in this market, at wholesale or retail; a prime article of cast-steel Hay and Manure Forks; also Hoes for garden use, and Elwell's best English made field Hoes, together with a general assortment of Agricultural Implements, such as Ploughs of all kinds, Harrows, Cultivators for Corn and Tobacco, Wheat Fans, at various prices, a superior article; Horse-power Threshing Machines—Farm Cars, with lime spreading machinery attached—a large quantity of Plough Castings constantly on hand, for sale at retail or by the ton—Machine Castings and machinery, made in the best manner and at short notice—likewise repairs, &c. &c. On hand several different Corn Planters, that have a good reputation.

Extract from a letter from the Hon. Mr. Merrick, U. S. Senator, dated from his estate, Aug. 3d, 1841.

"Mr. Dalrymple arrived safely with the Horse Power on Sunday last; we fixed it up and set it to work on Monday morning, and have had it at work all day to day. I think it operates finely, and in my judgement is superior to any horse-power I have ever seen. The Thresher too is very effectual, and far surpasses any I have ever tried; it is simple and efficient, two most important qualities for men and laborers on a farm. It threshes the wheat cleaner from the straw, than any machine I ever saw work. Indeed it is next to impossible that a head of perfect wheat should pass through this machine unthreshed."

Mr. Merrick got out his last year's crop with this thresher.

N. B. Always on hand, Landreth's superior Garden Seeds, at retail.

au 11 J. S. EASTMAN.

## BERKSHIRES &amp; IRISH GRAZIER PIGS.

The subscriber will receive orders for his fall litters of pure Berkshires bred from stock selected of C. N. Bement, & John Lossing, esq. of Albany, N. Y. and importations from England; also for the improved Ulster breed of Irish Graziers, bred by Wm. Murdoch, Esq. of Annaroe, co'y. Monaghan, Ireland. Price, same as at Albany for pure Berkshires \$20 per pair; for Irish Graziers \$25 per pair, with the addition of \$1 for Cage, deliverable in or shipped at the port of Baltimore.

Address, post paid, JOHN P. E. STANLEY, June 17 Or apply at No. 50 S. Calvert street, Baltimore.